GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:749
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
PRICES OF WHEAT
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are not benefiting from rising market prices of wheat as middlemen are taking all the profits;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any plan to ensure that farmers get adequate benefit from higher market prices of their crops;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): In order to ensure remunerative prices for the agricultural produce Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for selected crops like paddy, wheat, coarse cereals and selected pulses and oilseeds every year. Consequently, the MSP of wheat for 2007-08 has been fixed/announced at Rs.1000/- per quintal. The ruling wheat prices are above this MSP as given for selected markets/centres in the table below. If prices are not remunerative, the farmers can always sell their produce to the Government agencies to avoid any loss.

Table - Wholesale Prices of Wheat as on first week of February, 2008

(Rs. Per quintal)

Market/Centre	Hyderabad	Mumbai	Bhubaneshwar	Delhi	Lucknow	Trivandrum
Wheat Prices (As on 1.2.2008	1380	1675	1280	1145	1000	1570

Also, the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act has been amended to benefit the farmers to realize better prices.